Docket No. AT9-98-916

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. A method implemented in a data processing system for storing broadcast events for playback at a later time, wherein the data processing system includes a broadcast receiver, the method comprising:

receiving a designation of at least two broadcast events;

prioritizing the designated at least two broadcast events including a highest priority designated broadcast event; and

accessing a broadcast frequency associated with the highest priority designated broadcast event.

2. The method according to claim 1 wherein the broadcast frequency is a first broadcast frequency, further comprises:

accessing a second broadcast frequency from a plurality of broadcast frequencies; and

scanning the first and second broadcast frequencies for selected broadcast events.

3. The method according to claim 1, further comprises:

storing the highest designated broadcast event in a memory.

4. The method according to claim 3 wherein the memory is not included in the data processing system.

5. The method according to claim 3 wherein the step of storing further comprises:

indexing the selected broadcast events to a user.

6. A method implemented in a data processing system for storing broadcast events for playback at a later time, wherein the data processing system includes a broadcast receiver, the method comprising:

receiving a designation of at least two broadcast events;

prioritizing the designated at least two broadcast events including a highest priority designated broadcast event;

accessing the highest priority designated broadcast event; and

storing the highest priority broadcast events in a memory.

7. A method implemented in a data processing system for storing broadcast events for playback at a later time, wherein the data processing system includes a broadcast receiver, the method comprising:

receiving a designation of at least two broadcast events;

prioritizing the designated at least two broadcast events including a highest priority designated broadcast event;

storing the designated broadcast events in a memory;

responsive to prioritizing the designated broadcast events, retrieving the highest priority designated broadcast event from the memory; and

playing the broadcast event retrieved from memory.

8. A method implemented in a data processing system for creating a data structure for storing broadcast events for playback at a later time, wherein the data processing system includes a broadcast receiver, the method comprising:

receiving parameters in a data structure comprising:

designating at least two broadcast events;

prioritizing the designated at least two broadcast events including a highest priority designated broadcast event;

designating a broadcast frequency; and

using the parameters received in the data structure for storing the designated broadcast events in a memory.

9. A method implemented in a data processing system for creating a data structure for storing broadcast

events for playback at a later time, wherein the data processing system includes a broadcast receiver, the method comprising:

receiving parameters in a data structure comprising:

designating at least two broadcast events;

prioritizing the designated at least two broadcast events including a highest priority designated broadcast event;

indicating storage parameters associated with the at least two broadcast events;

using the parameters received in the data structure comprises:

storing the designated at least two broadcast events in memory;

storing the designated at least two broadcast events in memory; and

playing the retrieved broadcast event.

10. A method implemented in a data processing system for storing broadcast events for playback at a later time, wherein the data processing system includes a broadcast receiver, the method comprising:

receiving a retention parameter for retaining a broadcast event;

receiving a playback scheduling parameter for scheduling a broadcast event;

receiving a playback format parameter for playing back a broadcast event;

retaining a broadcast event according to the retention parameter;

retrieving a broadcast event according to the playback format parameter; and

playing back a broadcast event according to the playback format parameter.

11. The method according to claim 10 wherein the retention parameter is associated with a broadcast event and prioritized by topic with respect to other broadcast events.

12. The method according to claim 10 wherein the retention parameter retention parameter associated with a broadcast and prioritized by title with respect to other broadcast events.

13. The method according to claim 10 wherein the playback scheduling parameter associated with scheduling a broadcast event and prioritized by topic with respect to other broadcast events.

14. The method according to claim 10 wherein the playback format parameter associated with formatting a broadcast event playback and prioritized by title with respect to other broadcast events.

15. The method according to claim 10 wherein the playback format parameter associated with formatting a broadcast event and prioritized by topic with respect to other broadcast events.

16. The method according to claim 10 wherein a memory is included in the data processing system.

17. The method according to claim 10 wherein the memory is not included in the data processing system.

18. The method according to claim 10 wherein the step of storing further comprises:

associating the selected broadcast events to a user.

19. A data processing system for storing broadcast events for playback at a later time, the system comprising:

receiving means for receiving a designation of at least two broadcast events;

prioritizing means for prioritizing the designated at least two broadcast events including a highest priority designated broadcast event; and

accessing means for accessing a broadcast frequency associated with the highest priority designated broadcast event.

20. The system according to claim 19 wherein the broadcast frequency is a first broadcast frequency, further comprises:

accessing means for accessing a second broadcast frequency from a plurality of broadcast frequencies; and

scanning means for scanning the first and second broadcast frequencies for selected broadcast events.

21. The system according to claim 19 further comprises:

memory means for memory for storing the highest priority designated broadcast event.

22. The system according to claim 21 wherein the memory means for memory is not included in the data processing system.

23. The system according to claim 21 wherein the memory means for storing further comprises:

indexing means for indexing the selected broadcast events to a user.

24. A data processing system for storing broadcast events for playback at a later time, the system comprising:

receiving means for receiving a designation of at least two broadcast events;

prioritizing means for prioritizing the designated at least two broadcast events including a highest priority designated broadcast event;

accessing means for accessing the highest priority designated broadcast event; and

storing means for storing the highest priority broadcast events in a memory.

25. A data processing system for storing broadcast events for playback at a later time, the system comprising:

receiving means for receiving a designation of at least two broadcast events;

prioritizing means for prioritizing the designated at least two broadcast events including a highest priority designated broadcast event;

storing means for storing the designated broadcast events in a memory;

responsive to prioritizing means for prioritizing the designated broadcast events, retrieving means for retrieving the highest priority designated broadcast event from the memory; and

playing means for playing the broadcast event retrieved from memory.

26. A data processing system for creating a data structure for storing broadcast events for playback at a later time for storing broadcast events for playback at a later time, the system comprising:

receiving means for receiving parameters in a data structure comprising:

designating at least two broadcast events;

prioritizing the designated at least two broadcast events including a highest priority designated broadcast event;

designating a broadcast frequency; and

using means for using the parameters received into the data structure for storing the designated broadcast events in a memory.

27. A data processing system for creating a data structure for storing broadcast events for playback at a later time for storing broadcast events for playback at a later time, the system comprising:

receiving means for receiving parameters in a data structure comprising:

designating at least two broadcast events;

prioritizing the designated at least two broadcast events including a highest priority designated broadcast event;

indicating storage parameters associated with the at least two broadcast events;

using means for using the parameters received in the data structure comprises:

storing means for storing the designated at least two broadcast events in memory;

storing means for storing the designated at least two broadcast events in memory; and

playing means for playing the retrieved broadcast event.

28. A data processing system for storing broadcast events for playback at a later time, the system comprising:

receiving means for receiving a retention parameter for retaining a broadcast event;

receiving means for receiving a playback scheduling parameter for scheduling a broadcast event;

receiving means for receiving a playback format parameter for playing back a broadcast event;

retaining means for retaining a broadcast event according to the retention parameter;

retrieving means for retrieving a broadcast event according to the playback format parameter; and

playing means for playing back a broadcast event according to the playback format parameter.

29. The system according to claim 28 wherein the retention parameter is associated with a broadcast event and prioritized by topic with respect to other broadcast events.

30. The system according to claim 28 wherein the retention parameter retention parameter associated with a broadcast and prioritized by title with respect to other broadcast events.

31. The system according to claim 28 wherein the playback scheduling parameter associated with scheduling a broadcast event and prioritized by topic with respect to other broadcast events.

32. The system according to claim 28 wherein the playback format parameter associated with formatting a broadcast event playback and prioritized by title with respect to other broadcast events.

33. The system according to claim 28 wherein the playback format parameter associated with formatting a broadcast event and prioritized by topic with respect to other broadcast events.

34. The system according to claim 28 wherein a memory is included in the data processing system.

35. The system according to claim 28 wherein the memory is not included in the data processing system.

36. The system according to claim 28 wherein the storing means for storing further comprises:

associating means for associating the selected broadcast events to a user.

37. A computer program product, including instructions implemented in a data processing system for storing broadcast events for playback at a later time, embodied on a system readable medium, the instructions comprising:

instructions for receiving a designation of at least two broadcast events;

instructions for prioritizing the designated at least two broadcast events including a highest priority designated broadcast event;

instructions for accessing a broadcast frequency associated with the highest priority designated broadcast event; and

instructions for storing the highest priority designated broadcast event in a memory.

38. A computer program product, including instructions implemented in a data processing system for storing broadcast events for playback at a later time, embodied on a system readable medium, the instructions comprising:

instructions for receiving a designation of at least two broadcast events;

instructions for prioritizing the designated at least two broadcast events including a highest priority designated broadcast event;

instructions for accessing the highest priority designated broadcast event; and

instructions for storing the highest priority broadcast events in a memory.

39. A computer program product, including instructions implemented in a data processing system for storing broadcast events for playback at a later time, embodied on a system readable medium, the instructions comprising:

instructions for receiving a designation of at least two broadcast events;

instructions for prioritizing the designated at least two broadcast events including a highest priority designated broadcast event;

instructions for storing the designated broadcast events in a memory;

responsive to instructions for prioritizing the designated broadcast events, instructions for retrieving the highest priority designated broadcast event from the memory; and

instructions for playing the broadcast event retrieved from memory.

40. A computer program product, including instructions implemented in a data processing system for creating

a data structure for storing broadcast events for playback at a later time, embodied on a system readable medium, the instructions comprising:

instructions for receiving parameters in a data structure comprising:

designating at least two broadcast events;

prioritizing the designated at least two broadcast events including a highest priority designated broadcast event;

designating a broadcast frequency; and

instructions for using the parameters received in the data structure for storing the designated broadcast events in a memory.

41. A computer program product, including instructions implemented in a data processing system for creating a data structure for storing broadcast events for playback at a later time, embodied on a system readable medium, the instructions comprising:

instructions for receiving parameters in a data structure comprising:

designating at least two broadcast events;

prioritizing the designated at least two broadcast events including a highest priority designated broadcast event;

indicating storage parameters associated with the at least two broadcast events;

instructions for using the parameters received in the data structure comprises:

storing the designated at least two broadcast events in memory;

instructions for storing the designated at least two broadcast events in memory; and

playing the retrieved broadcast event.

42. A computer program product, including instructions implemented in a data processing system for storing broadcast events for playback at a later time, embodied on a system readable medium, the instructions comprising:

instructions for receiving a retention parameter for retaining a broadcast event;

instructions for receiving a playback scheduling parameter for scheduling a broadcast event;

instructions for receiving a playback format parameter for playing back a broadcast event;

instructions for retaining a broadcast event according to the retention parameter;

instructions for retrieving a broadcast event according to the playback format parameter; and

instructions for playing back a broadcast event according to the playback format parameter.